

~~Top Secret~~**YUGOSLAVIA: Hardliner Acting Defense Minister**

Army Chief of Staff Blagoje Adzic, who has been in charge of the Defense Ministry since Minister Veljko Kadijevic was hospitalized this week, reportedly favors a strong military response to the country's crisis. [REDACTED] Kadijevic has resisted attempts by some generals, led by Adzic, to move without legal authority. [REDACTED] Adzic is the point man for the hardline Serb Communists in the military. Adzic recently told an interviewer he still has emotional wounds from the destruction of his village in Bosnia-Herzegovina by Croatian fascists during World War II. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Without Kadijevic's moderating hand, Adzic will be more inclined to react forcefully to renewed ethnic violence or the breakup of the country, but military intervention against Croatia or Slovenia almost certainly would risk fracturing the armed forces along ethnic lines. [REDACTED]

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